

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 5, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the specification has been amended for better conformance to the drawings and to U.S. practice.

By means of the present, claims 1-20 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form. Claims 1-20 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2, 5-6 and 12-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 2, 5-6 and 12-13 contain patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to include

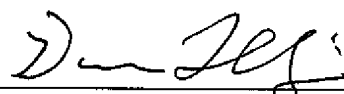
the features of allowable claim 12 which has been canceled without prejudice. In addition, claims 5 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form without including certain features that are believed to be not necessary for patentability.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 5 and 13 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 6-11 and 14-20 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 5.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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